Pakistan's Military Exercise "ZARBE-E-MOMIN"

155. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: SHRi ANAND SHARMA;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of Pakistan's heavy preparations for military exercises "Zerbe-e-M'omin" held in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir and what is Government's reaction thereto;;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the reports that choice of the area for military exercises has been made in the light of late Pakistan's President Zia-ul-Haq's plan called "Opperation topac" to attack Jammu and Kashmir after mounting terrorists pressure inside Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, how do Government view the heavy build up of Pak Army on Jammu and Kashmir borders for war game "Zerbe-e-Momin" and what me asures have been taken by Govern ment to meet any threat to the coun try's security?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The exercise is being conducted away from the Indian border.

(b) Many reasons are possible for selecting the area of the exercise. The Government studies the implica tions of aH probable factor$_s$ in such matters.

(c) A close watch is kept on all de velopments having a bearing on our national security and appropriate me asures are taken from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

Promotion of Section Officers in the Central Secretariat Services

156. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had granted promotion to the Section Officers of Central Secretariat Service with 12 to 13 years of service in that grade on personal and *ad-hoc* basic during 1985-86, with a view to avoid prevalent discontentment among the Section Officers;

(b) what are the details of such ad-hoc persona] promotions;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to promote the other Section Officers as to assuage their feeling *on* the same analogy; and

(d) by when Government would promote these officers with 12 to 13 years in the grade on the same ana logy?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND' PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, in September 1984, 60 officers of the Section Officers' Grade of the Central Secretariat Service were given ad-hoc promotion as Under Secretary on a temporary basis by upgrading 60 posts of Desk Officers/ Section Officers, held by them, to the level of Under Secretary as personal to thern.

(c) and (d) Promotions to next higher Grade are generally ordered on availability of vacancies in the higher Grade and not on personal basis. The promotion of eligible Section Officers in accordance with Re-cruitment Rules, will therefore, depend upon availability of vacances in Under Secretary's Grade.

Backlog Vacancies for SC/ST in KVS

157. SHRIMATI BIJOY CHAKRAVARTY; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) what are the details of posts of different categories of employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan reser ved as per provisions, for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for the year/session 1988/1988-89 and 1989/ 1989-90;

(b) the details of backlog vacan cies, if any; and